

The Legal Services Corporation is the single largest funder of civil legal services in the country and is at the forefront of a public-private partnership focused on fulfilling America's pledge of equal justice for all.

Since its founding almost four decades ago, LSC has been making a difference in the lives of low-income Americans by providing high-quality civil legal assistance to veterans, the elderly, victims of domestic abuse, tenants facing unlawful evictions, and others.

"The Congress finds and declares that—

- there is a need to provide equal access to the system of justice in our Nation for individuals who seek redress of grievances;
- (2) there is a need to provide high quality legal assistance to those who would be otherwise unable to afford adequate legal counsel and to continue the present vital legal services program;
- (3) providing legal assistance to those who face an economic barrier to adequate legal counsel will serve best the ends of justice and assist in improving opportunities for low-income persons consistent with the purposes of this Act."

—Excerpt from the Legal Services Corporation Act Public Law 93-355, July 25, 1974

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COVER PHOTOS, CLOCKWISE FROM UPPER LEFT: JOHN EIDLEMAN: ERIK UNGER: TOM WOLFF: HILL STREET STUDIOS/GETTY IMAGES